

WAYNE STATE
UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Theoretical and Behavioral Foundations
5425 Gullen Mall, 3 North College of Education
Detroit, Michigan 48202

October 23, 2017

The Honorable Jim Tedder
N-892 House Office Building
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909

Re: Proposed bill to revise the Public Health Code, Part 181 Counseling

Dear Rep Tedder,

The purpose of this letter is to support revision of the Counselor Licensure Law (Part 181 Public Health Code) which was originally signed in 1988. The entire faculty of the Counseling program at Wayne State University are 100% in support of you introducing a bill to update the statute, so that it more clearly defines the actual intent of the original statute. In particular, terms used in the statute to describe scope of practice "clinical methods, principles or procedures" and "counseling techniques" were defined in the Administrative Rules to include "diagnosis" and "psychotherapy".

The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) has requested revisions in the statute which clarify and better reflect the actual scope of practice and training of Licensed Professional Counselors (LPC's / LLPC's) as well as be consistent with the Administrative Rules. Professional counselors have been diagnosing, providing psychotherapy, multicultural counseling, etc. since the statute was signed in 1988.

Also, the Michigan Board of Counseling has adopted the training standards of the Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), the national accrediting body for counseling programs. Updating our scope of practice in the statute will bring our training requirements more in line with current CACREP standards and national norms.

Your efforts on behalf of our profession are greatly appreciated, and we anticipate this legislation being passed.

Sincerely,

Yours truly,



JoAnne Holbert, Ed.D., LPC, NCC
Program Coordinator, Counselor Education Program